

<p style="text-align: center;">LORA “LOU” FRANKLIN RUSSELL...AN ENIGMA BY <i>Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.</i> 1ST EDITION 2012 2ND REVISED 2015</p>
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THE DILEMMA...

After 37 years of family history research, rarely does an ancestor capture my imagination as much as Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell. My interest into this man’s life began as I researched my first cousin once removed, *i.e.*, Thelma Dorothy (**PRATT**) Rowland.

Thelma married David “Dave” Andrew Rowland in Salem, Benton Township, Fulton County, Arkansas, United States on 20 January 1951. Both are deceased now, you can find them on www.findagrave.com at gravesites # 96408103 and # 96408281 and if you are a member of www.ancestry.com on my Pratt Progenitor Papers family tree.

Dave was born in Collinsville, Collinsville Township, Madison County, Illinois, United States on 10 October 1928 and died in Saint Louis City, Missouri, United States on 31 March 2008. His parents are William “Will” David (1894-1980) FAG# 59524380 & Jessie Isabelle (**RUSSELL**) Rowland (1902-1986) FAG# 59524180. All are buried in the Crow Cemetery, Boone Township, Franklin County, Missouri, United States.

I remember Dave and Thelma at the Pratt-Graddy Family Reunions every September throughout the 1970’s and 1990’s. Each year at these family reunions, I would give discourses and presentations concerning our common family history ancestors. Dave and Thelma were some of my most ardent supporters...they are truly missed.

Dave’s mother; Jessie Isabelle (**RUSSELL**) Rowland is one of the daughters of our subject; Lora “Lou” Franklin, whom married Delcinia Isabelle “Belle” Jane (**RICHARDS**) Russell.

For an explanation of how to list female birth surnames see the book, “**Master Accreditation of the Genealogical Institute M.A.G.I. Course Lesson #4 A Rose by Any Other Name**”...2015 master ws.pdf can be accesses at <https://openlibrary.org/people/floydpratt59/lists> under the list...Genealogical Institute.

Now that I have given you my interest and background on these people, we will commence with the research dilemma.

LORA “LOU” FRANKLIN RUSSELL

Lora Russell was born, (according to his death certificate) in Eldon, Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States on 4 April 1873 and died in Sullivan, Meramec Township, Franklin County, Missouri, United States on 19 March 1923. The informant on his death certificate was his son...Joseph “Joel” Edward Russell.

You would think the controversy would end here with this information but Joel did not know who his father’s parents were on the death certificate. Since there can only be one informant on a death certificate, even if Joel’s siblings knew who their father’s parents were they didn’t share that information with older brother; Joel.

This lack of information requires interested family researchers, *i.e.*, descendants to dig into the life of Mr. Lora Russell in order to bridge him to his parents.

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In Franklin County, Missouri on 9 April 1895, Lou married Delcinia Isabelle "Belle" Jane (**RICHARDS**) born in Danville Township, Montgomery County, Missouri, United States on 6 January 1875, daughter of William P. (1846-1918) & Mary Isabelle "Belle" (**NORMAN**) Richards (1847-1915).

Lou's life is pretty easily documented from 1895 to his death in 1923 all spent in the Johnson Township, Washington County, Missouri...Algire area with the exception of his death in Sullivan.

Even his burial location for both he and his wife are at Strauser aka Pea Ridge Cemetery, Johnson Township, Washington County, Missouri, United States with FAG#5282563 and FAG#5282562 respectively. (No pictures of the headstones)

Consequently, in order to determine his parents, one must look prior to his 1895 marriage date. This is where the confusion begins.

SMOKING GUN... 1880 FEDERAL CENSUS

Since the death certificate stated Lou was born in Eldon, Missouri this would be Eldon, Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States.

Checking the 1880 census of Miller County, Missouri, expecting to find little 7-year-old Lora "Lou" Franklin Russell with his parents has been the normal routine for thousands of people I have researched over my 40-year tenure.

But...there is a fly in the ointment, little 5-year-old Lora Russell in living in Saline Township of Miller County as expected, but with his **Uncle Jesse & Aunt Tabitha Hicks family!**

There are no other Russell families in close proximity and no clue as to which side of the family Uncle Jesse and Aunt Tabitha belong in relation to Lou's parents.

Since Uncle Jesse is a Hicks then he could have married a Russell girl who would have been a sister to Lou's father. Thus making Jesse Hicks...Lou's uncle on his father's side.

However, through hard research I found that Jesse Hicks married Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) in Miller County, Missouri on 7 June 1855.

Since Uncle Jesse did NOT marry a Russell sister of Lou's father, then the connection to the Hicks family is not on Lou's paternal side of the family but on his **material side** of the family!

So...WHO IS THE RUSSELL, FATHER OF LOU?

Starting with the hypothesis, Lou's father was a Russell and his mother was a Hicks, all we need to do is to find a marriage record between ___??___ Russell and ___??___ (**HICKS**) or any variation of his mother's name **in case she was previously married.**

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Looking for the easy way out, I checked for that Russell-Hicks marriage combination, as have dozens before me and found no references on ancestry.com or the National website for Miller County, Missouri Marriage Records. This was going to be harder than I thought.

Checking for Russell-_____ marriages that show they may not have lived to the 1880 census also proved fruitless. We are working on the assumption that Lou Russell was an orphan by the 1880 census, that's why he was living with his Aunt and Uncle.

Checking all the Russell men who would have been born between the ages of 15, *i.e.*, born in 1858 or age of 30, *i.e.*, born in 1843 I did not find any that may have died between the conception dates of 1872-1874 for Lou, or had died before the 1880 census date.

Therefore, it looks like I am going to have to investigate the Hicks family and find a sister to Lou's Uncle Jesse Hicks that may have married...or not...a __??__ Russell man between 1870 and 1874 before their conception and birth of son; Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell.

THE HICKS FAMILY OF MILLER COUNTY, MISSOURI

The first thing one needs to do is to find the parents of Jesse Hicks. Prior researchers on ancestry.com had already accomplished this task by validating Nathaniel & Mary "Polly" Lucinda (**RAPER**) Hicks family of Miller County, Missouri. Remember, Hicks is also spelled Hix, so be mindful when researching.

Nathaniel Hicks was born circa 1798 in Virginia and died near Pleasant Mount Post Office area of Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States between 1860 and 1870 census dates. He married around 1813-1814 in Virginia wife; Mary "Polly" Lucinda (**RAPER**).

How long they lived in Virginia before heading west is unknown. I could not make a positive Identification of him and his family for the 1830 or 1840 Federal census.

Checking his known children's names and birth locations we have the following...

1. William W. Hicks or Hix born circa 1815 in Virginia
2. Nathaniel Hicks born 1819 in Kentucky
3. Jesse Hicks born 1829 in Tennessee
4. George Hicks born 1831 in Tennessee
5. James Hicks born 1832 in Tennessee
6. Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) born 1846 in Illinois.

Notice the HUGE age gaps between children. Obviously, we have missing children from this family. Also, we only have one daughter listed and the trouble with daughters from a family history perspective is...they tend to disappear after they become marrying age unless a marriage record ties them to a husband' surname.

However, by the 1850 census, Nathaniel and family are living in District 11 of Marion County, Illinois.

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Since the only known daughter; Mary Ann is 4 years old in the 1850 census and was born in Illinois, then she must have been born in District 11, Marion County, Illinois. Checking the deed books for that county should reveal where they were living and when they arrived and departed from Marion County.

By the 1st of December 1857, Nathaniel has moved and purchased several pieces of property in Miller County of Missouri. This means between the 1850 census date and the 1857 deed records, they moved from Marion County, Illinois to Miller County, Missouri.

Since, Lou Russell is living with Uncle Jesse & Aunt Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks in the 1880 census and we only have one sister of record for Jesse Hicks then we need to investigate Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) to see if she may be the mother of Lou Russell.

MARY ANN WINNIFORD (HICKS)...POTENTIAL MOTHER

Several trees on ancestry.com have concluded that Mary Ann was Lou's mother but after 3 full days of intense research...I am not so sure. I will present my research and you, the reader can decide if their conclusions are justified.

Their conclusions are based on what was reported in the 1880 census when Lou or his Uncle Jesse or Aunt Tabitha was asked where Lou's father was born, they stated Tennessee and when they asked where Lou's mother was born they stated Illinois.

After the 1850 census, Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) at the age of 13 on the 18th of August 1859 in Miller County married 1st George William Carrender and is listed as living with him near Pleasant Mount Post Office, Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States by the 1860 census.

Now, George was born in Wayne County, Kentucky, United States on 28 June 1839 son of Alfred (1815-1880/1900) & Elizabeth (**BOND**) Carrender (1815-1863). His parents were married in Wayne County, Kentucky circa 1834-1836 and moved to Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri by the 1840 census. Therefore, George's birth location is undetermined either in Wayne County or Miller County depending on when they left Wayne County and arrived in Miller County.

George and Mary began a large family through the early 1860's when for reasons unknown, with a wife and 6 known children, on the 12th of August 1864 George enlisted in the Union Army at Jefferson City, Cole County, Missouri, United States and was assigned to Company B of the 48th Infantry Regiment Missouri Volunteers.

He died from disease in the Post Hospital in Paducah, McCracken County, Kentucky, United States on 5 January 1865 and was buried in Mound City National Cemetery, Mound City Precinct, Pulaski County, Illinois, United States at FAG# 66161864.

Now we have widow; Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender with at least 6 children needing help with those children and along comes Robert R. Stansberry to the rescue.

The date when Robert R. Stansberry was born...is unknown. Now isn't that a crock?

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This is really bad luck for researchers. In fact, the whole record keeping and research situation with the Russell's, Hicks' and Tracy families from Miller County is deplorable.

In all my years of research, I have never seen an epidemic of family research apathy as I have witnessed in my 3 days of research into the families of Miller County, Missouri. It is because of this lack of research records that I have decided to put pen to paper to help future researchers.

After Robert R. Stansberry's marriage to widow; Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender in Miller County, Missouri on 19 August 1866, he father's at least one known child, a daughter, named Minerva "Nerva" Mary Leona Lee (STANSBERRY) born 7 June 1870 and shortly thereafter...her father; Robert dies before the 2 July 1870 census date!

This is very, very bad luck. Who was he? Where did he come from? So, if we are to conclude, that Minerva was conceived in September 1869 then her father Robert died between September 1869 and the 2nd of July 1870 census date.

This is very bad luck for widow; Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry. She has four children now including 3 of her Carrender children and of course, 1-month-old Minerva by the 1870 census date.

It is at this point where the possibilities of a __??__ Russell marriage could have taken place, thus producing Lora "Lou" Franklin Russell born circa 1873-1875.

Checking the marriage records of Miller and surrounding counties for Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry and all the variations of a possible combination of names she could have used, to see who may have married a __??__ Russell between 1870-1875 was...futile. This included ancestry.com's marriage records...a poor source since their records are so incomplete and checking the National and State GenWeb sites also provided no answers.

This failure to produce a marriage record for widow Stansberry presents a profound complication to this research. Not only does she fail to marry or we cannot find that marriage record but also...she fails to live to the 1880 census date. Thereby, leaving us with the conclusion that she died between the 1870 census date and the 1880 census date.

On the surface, this looks really good for Lou Russell because if he was born 1873-1875 and his mother was Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry and she married Mr. __??__ Russell, then her untimely death would leave Lou an orphan by the 1880 census leaving him to live with his Uncle Jesse and Aunt Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks family.

This is where most researchers stopped. To them this was enough circumstantial evidence to bridge Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry and possibly a widow Mrs. Russell to Lora "Lou" Franklin Russell as his mother. However, I have not evolved into a master family history researcher by not looking for subsurface cracks when it comes to family history research chinks in the armor.

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I present this point of query to my reader...if Mary Ann has died before the 1880 census and little Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell is living with his mother’s brother, *i.e.*, Jesse & Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks family then, where is 10-year-old Minerva “Nerva” Mary Leona Lee (**STANSBERRY**), Lou’s alleged half-sister living in the 1880 census????

ENTER THE FLY IN THE OINTMENT

At this point, I too was about to throw in the towel and call Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry and possibly widow Russell the mother of Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell when the 1880 census threw a wrench into the works and completely reversed my decision.

Checking for little 10-year-old Minerva “Nerva” Mary Leona Lee (**STANSBERRY**) in the 1880 census and hoping to find her living with her mother thereby eliminating Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry as the possible mother of Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell I was in for a shock!!!

Little 9-year-old Minerva Stansberry is living with **her Uncle John Alexander & Aunt Elizabeth Tracy family!!!**

Ok, this confirms her mother Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry has died before the 1880 census. **But it does not mean that Mary Ann was the mother of Lora ‘Lou’ Franklin Russell.**

I figured, if John Alexander Tracy had married an Elizabeth and she turned out to be a (**HICKS**) then Elizabeth and Mary Ann were sisters and this means that Jesse Hicks, Elizabeth (**HICKS**) and Mary Ann (**HICKS**) were siblings thus making Jesse and Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) and John Alexander & Elizabeth (**HICKS**) Tracy uncles and aunts to both Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell and his half sister; Minerva “Nerva” Mary Leona Lee (**STANSBERRY**).

Now the only thing needed was to prove the identity of John Alexander Tracy’s wife Elizabeth Tracy.

ELIZABETH TRACY

Elizabeth Tracy was born 1840 in Kentucky and was married to John Alexander Tracy. Checking the marriage records of Miller County, Missouri, I found on 3 December 1866 John A. Tracy did indeed marry an Elizabeth (**HICKS**)!! **Hooray!!!**

But not so fast...let’s look into this Elizabeth (**HICKS**). If Elizabeth was the daughter of old Nathaniel born 1809 in Virginia as we discussed previously, then her birth locations should match his census locations for her birth time period.

In the 1850 census, first of all, little Elizabeth is 10 years old and there is no such person listed in the household in Nathaniel and Lucinda (**RAPER**) Hicks’ home. This could mean she was living with a relative so let’s see if she is in Nathaniel’s home in the 1860 census.

Nope, she is not living there and she would be either married by the age of 20 or living with someone else, because we know she gets married to John Alexander Tracy in 1866.

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So, in whose household would a 10-year-old Elizabeth (**HICKS**) be living by the 1850 census?

Bingo!!! In the household of Nathaniel & Lucinda's son; William W. & his second wife; Margaret S. (**CRISP**) Hicks family!

It appears William W. Hicks or Hix born in 1815 Virginia first married (spouse unknown) circa 1833-1835 and had the following children...

1. John W. Hicks born 1835 in Jackson Township, Washington County, Indiana, United States
2. Elizabeth (**HICKS**) born 1840 in Jackson Township, Washington County, Indiana, United States

Widower William W. Hicks or Hix and his 2nd wife...Margaret S. (**CRISP**) were married in Miller County, Missouri, United States on 7 April 1846 and had the following known children;

3. James L. Hicks born 1846 in Miller, Missouri, United States
4. Joseph N. Hicks born 1848 in Miller, Missouri, United States
5. Francis M. Hicks born 1850 in Miller, Missouri, United States
6. Thomas Hicks born 1852 in Miller, Missouri, United States
7. Phoebe A. (**HICKS**) 1855 in Miller, Missouri, United States
8. William H. Hicks 1858 in Miller, Missouri, United States
9. George Washington Hicks born 1860 in Miller, Missouri, United States

Now, in all her census records that she is alive, Elizabeth E. (**HICKS**) states she was born as follows...

1840 census she was born 1836-1840 living with her parents in the Jackson Township, Washington County, Indiana, United States

1850 census she was born 1840 in Indiana living with her parents.

1860 census she was born 1841 in Indiana living with her parents.

1866 marriage to John Alexander Tracy

1870 census she was born 1838 in Kentucky.

1880 census she was born 1840 in Kentucky.

1900 census [can't locate]

Died before 1907 when husband married Evaline E. (_??_)

Therefore, if I haven't lost you already, what we can draw from this information is the following...

1. John Alexander Tracy married Elizabeth (**HICKS**) **NOT** the sister of Jesse Hicks and Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry.
2. Minerva "Nerva" Mary Leona Lee (**STANSBERRY**) is the daughter of Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry and the niece of John Alexander & Elizabeth (**HICKS**) **Tracy**.
3. Lora "Lou" Franklin Russell **is not the son** of Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) and is the nephew of Jesse & Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks.

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The common denominator concerning Lora "Lou" Franklin Russell and Minerva "Nerva" Mary Leona Lee (**STANSBERRY**) is the **TRACY FAMILY CONNECTION!!!**

THE TRACY FAMILY OF MILLER COUNTY, MISSOURI

We know that Lou Russell is the nephew of Jesse & Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks family and we all thought his connection was the Hicks family but because I have just proven that assumption false, then the only other conclusion is...Lou Russell was connected not to the Hicks family but...to the **Tracy family** on his mother's side.

This presumption only works if we can prove that John Alexander Tracy and wife of Jesse Hicks, *i.e.*, Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) were siblings. This required me to not only research the Hicks family but now to do a thorough research of the Tracy family of Miller County, Missouri.

Bingo!!! I discovered not only was Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) a daughter of Timothy & Nancy (___??___) Tracy but also, John Alexander Tracy **was** her brother.

TIMOTHY TRACY

Timothy Tracy was born in Barren County, Kentucky, United States circa 1809, son of Isaac & Elizabeth "Betsy" (**WILLIAMS**) Tracy from North Carolina.

On 12 August 1864, Timothy Tracy enlisted with the Union Army at Jefferson City, Cole County, Missouri, United States and died at Benton Barracks General Hospital, Benton Barracks, Saint Louis County, Missouri, United States on 23 December 1864. Timothy Tracy is buried at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, 2900 Sheridan Road, Saint Louis County, Missouri, United States. FAG# 81390792

He was assigned to Company B of the 48th Infantry Regiment Missouri Volunteers. Does this sound familiar? This is the same company that George William Carrender joined on the 12th of August 1864. We'll talk more about this later.

Circa 1833-1835 Timothy Tracy married Nancy (_____) and they had the following children...

1. Isaac Tracy was born 1835 in Barren County, Kentucky
2. Paul Tracy was born 1835 in Barren County, Kentucky
3. Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) was born 1836 in Barren County, Kentucky
4. Mary (**TRACY**) was born 1840 in Washington County, Illinois
5. Allen Tracy was born 1842 in Washington County, Illinois
6. Rebecca (**TRACY**) was born 1844 in Washington County, Illinois
7. John Alexander Tracy was born 1847 in District 13, Miller County, Missouri
8. Sarah Elizabeth (**TRACY**) was born 1849 in Jackson Twp, Greene County, Missouri
9. William Allen Tracy was born 1852 in Jackson Twp, Greene County, Missouri
10. Rachel M. (**TRACY**) was born January 1856 in Jackson Twp, Camden County, Missouri
11. Nancy (**TRACY**) was born May 1860 near Linn Creek Post Office, Jackson Twp, Camden County, Missouri

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Notice the two sisters Mary and Rebecca are underlined. This is to bring your attention to the fact they were both born in Washington County, Illinois and Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell stated in the 1880 census his mother was born in Illinois.

Many of us assumed the girl we call Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) was the Mary (**HICKS**) born 1840 in Illinois daughter of Nathaniel & Lucinda (**RAPER**) Hicks and she married 1st George William Carrender and 2nd Robert R. Stansberry. What if at age 26 when she married George William Carrender she had already been married and she was previously married to a ___??___ Hicks and was widow Hicks when she married Carrender?

If she had been Mary (**TRACY**) who married 1st Carrender, then 2nd Stansberry then it makes sense that her daughter; Minerva would be living with Mary’s brother; John Alexander & Elizabeth (**HICKS**) Tracy family in the 1880 census and her son; Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell would be living with her sister; Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks wife of Jesse Hicks in the 1880 census.

This would mean that Minerva (**STANSBERRY**) and Lou Russell were half brother and sister!

Another option would be that Rebecca (**TRACY**) was Lou’s mother, because I cannot figure out what happened to her after the 1870 census. All the rest of the Tracy sisters I have found their disposition and have excluded them as Lou’s mother.

Question...why would Timothy Tracy at the age of 56 enlist in the same outfit George William Carrender was serving a few months after George enlisted if...Timothy Tracy and George Carrender had no family connection?

Also, it appears that Timothy Tracy was a gutsy guy because he lied when he was enrolled and told them he was only 44 not the 56 years he actually was. His widow; Nancy (_____) Tracy applied for a pension on 10 April 1880, which is the last known appearance of her in the records. Ordering her pension application might reveal her birth surname and marriage date and location.

MORE FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

Let me introduce another player in this scenario. If you noticed on page 6 under William W. Hick’s first wife, he had two children...John W. Hicks and Elizabeth E. (**HICKS**)...whom married John Alexander Tracy.

Well it turns out that the widower; John W. Hicks above married Rebecca (**TRACY**) sister of John Alexander Tracy on 27 May 1866 in Miller County, Missouri.

What this means is that Rebecca (**TRACY**) Hicks who was also born in 1844 in Illinois and after her husband John W. Hicks died after the 1870 census, she could have been the one to have married Lou’s father; ___??___ Russell and would have been widow; Rebecca (**TRACY**) Hicks.

This means Lou’s Aunt Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks of the 1880 census would have been Rebecca’s sister. Rebecca (**TRACY**) Hicks disappears after the 1870 census also.

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FACTS AND SUPPLICATIONS...

Here's what we do know...

1. Lou Russell was born 1873-1875 in Miller County, Missouri.
2. Lou was living with his Uncle Jesse & Aunt Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks family in the 1880 census also in Miller County, Missouri.
3. Lou's father was a Russell his mother was either a _____ (**HICKS**) or a _____ (**TRACY**)
4. His father and mother were married 1870-1874 if they were married at all.
5. Lou may have been an orphan by the 1880 census.
6. It does not look like his connection was the Hicks family but the Tracy family.
7. Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry was not Lou Russell's mother due to the fact her proven daughter; Minerva "Nerva" Mary Leona Lee (**STANSBERRY**) is living with Minerva's Uncle John Alexander & Elizabeth (**HICKS**) Tracy family in the 1880 census and we have validated that Elizabeth (**HICKS**) and Jesse Hicks are not siblings. Therefore, Lou Russell was living with Aunt Tabitha Ann (**TRACY**) Hicks in the 1880 census.

Here's what we think we know...

1. Lou Russell was related to the Tracy side of the family not the Hicks side.
2. Lou's mother may have been one of several women named Tracy.
3. Lou's mother could have been Mary (**HICKS**) daughter of Nathaniel & Lucinda (**RAPER**) Hicks.
[not likely]
4. Lou's mother could have been Mary (**TRACY**) daughter of Timothy & Nancy (_____) Tracy.
[longshot]
5. Lou's mother could have been Rebecca (**TRACY**) daughter of Timothy & Nancy (_____) Tracy. [most likely and gets my vote]
6. Lou and Minerva could have had the same mother. Only...if their mother was a Tracy and not a Hicks.

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE RUSSELL FAMILIES...

Now in order to figure out, who is Lou Russell's father we must eliminate the available Russell candidates from the picture.

Looking at the oldest Russell family in Miller County we find the following...

Hiram Buckner (1804-1885) & Jemima C. (1804-1880) (**ETTER**) Russell family from Tennessee and Virginia. Looks like they were married 9 January 1825 most likely in Monroe County, Kentucky.

They had the following children...

1. Alexander Mayfield Russell born 1 November 1825 in Monroe County, Kentucky
2. Martha Jane (**RUSSELL**) born 5 July 1827 in Cole County, Missouri
3. James M. Russell born 28 October 1828 in Cole County, Missouri
4. Buckner James Russell born 29 September 1830 in Cole County, Missouri

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5. Susan M. (**RUSSELL**) Popejoy born 5 December 1832 in Cole County, Missouri
6. William Henry Russell born 6 March 1835 in Cole County, Missouri.

Let's analyze each of these children to determine which one could have been a potential father to Lou Russell.

[1] ☒ Alexander Mayfield Russell married Louisa Jane (**COTTON**) on 21 December 1848 in Miller County, Missouri. Louisa was born 18 Feb 1829 in Pisgah, North Moniteau Township, Cooper County, Missouri and died 3 Apr 1899 in Miller County, Missouri.

Since Alexander was consistently married to Louisa until her death in 1899, then he is not likely the father of Lou Russell.

Let's look at Alexander and Louisa's male children to see if they could be the father of Lou Russell. There is only one son that fits the criteria; all the other sons would have been too young.

[2] ☐ The only son that fits was John Benjamin Russell born 28 Oct 1857 in Miller County and died 5 Sep 1928 in Eldon, Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri. John married 1st Virginia "Jennie" D. (**TAYLOR**) (1862-1897) on 11 September 1881 in Miller County, Missouri.

Now according to my guesstament, Lou's father should have been born before 1858. John Benjamin Russell just barely makes that cutoff date...meaning if he was the father of Lou Russell; John would have been aged 16 in 1873 and aged 19 in 1875, the proposed birth years of Lou Russell.

Since John Benjamin Russell did not marry, as far as we know, until 1881 would indicate he had plenty of time to (1) marry Lou Russell's mother, (2) father Lou Russell (3) become a widower before the 1880 census, (4) marry Virginia in 1881.

In the 1880 census, he is still living with his parents. But all of the above could have taken place before the 1880 census.

The problem with John Benjamin Russell being the father of Lou Russell lies in two areas. First, why wasn't Lou Russell living with him in the 1880 census...if he was his father? And second, why did Lou Russell sever all ties from the Miller County Russell families and move eventually to Washington County, Missouri?

It appears, Lou married wife Delcina in 1895 in Franklin County, Missouri and then moved to the Algire area of the Johnson Township of Washington County, Missouri. Neither Lou nor his wife were from Franklin or Washington counties or as far as I can discern, has any relatives from those locales.

So, in my opinion, it appears that Lou Russell severed all Miller County ties after the 1880 census and before his 1895 marriage. This could be explained several ways...first he was an orphan and held no allegiance to any of the Miller County Russells, second, his father had died and he felt he was free from any obligations and could leave the area in good conscience, third he was offered a good job in Franklin County.

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Regardless of Lou's motives to leave Miller County, John Benjamin Russell appears to be a good candidate for fatherhood of Lou Russell.

Now let's take a look at Hiram & Jemima's next son...a potential father for Lou Russell.

[3] ☐ James M. Russell born 28 October 1828 in Cole County, Missouri and died 21 August 1888 in Miller County. Some on the Internet have confused him with a James Russell who married a Clerise Ander and lived in Dallas County, Missouri.

This James Russell is not the same as our James M. Russell who appears to have never married. Our James M. Russell is in the 1850, 1870, 1880 census of Miller County living with his parents the whole time except for the 1870 census.

It appears, James M. Russell did not marry and he is a good candidate as father of our Lou Russell. Several factors appear good...first he is the right age bracket, second he remained in the area and third he was single and eligible for a marriage to Lou's mother in 1870-1874.

However, we still have the same problem with James M. as we did with John Benjamin Russell above, why wasn't Lou living with James M. Russell if he was his father in the 1880 census?

[4] ☒ The fourth potential Russell father is Hiram and Jemima's son; Buckner James Russell born 29 September 1830 in Cole County, Missouri and died 26 Jan 1907 in Miller County, Missouri.

Buckner James Russell married Martha Jane (**CLARK**) on 15 Dec 1850 in Miller County, Missouri. Martha was born 9 May 1829 in Tennessee and died 20 Aug 1905 in Miller County.

Buckner was consistently married to Martha so he would not have been the father of Lou Russell. But let's take a look at his sons.

[5] ☐ James Alexander Russell was born 9 September 1856 and died 20 April 1883 in Miller County, Missouri. As you can see he just barely made the cutoff date. He married Susan Frances (**CURRENCE**) on 21 September 1876 in Miller County. Susan was born 17 February 1855 and died 17 December 1936 in Miller County.

Even though James was consistently married to Susan from 1876 until his death in 1883, he could have been previously married between 1870-1874, the time that Lou Russell was born. James would have been aged 14 in 1870 and aged 18 in 1874. This could have allowed him to (1) marry Lou Russell's mother, (2) father Lou Russell (3) become a widower before the 1876 marriage to Susan.

[6] ☒ Another potential candidate for Lou Russell's father in another son of Buckner and Martha is Hiram Thomas Russell born 13 April 1858 and died 7 October 1891 in Miller County, Missouri.

Hiram married Cirrelda Margaret (**BOND**) on 29 March 1877 in Miller County, Missouri. Sarelda was born 19 March 1859 and died 15 August 1940 in Etterville, Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States.

<p style="text-align: center;">LORA “LOU” FRANKLIN RUSSELL...AN ENIGMA BY Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 1ST EDITION 2012 2ND REVISED 2015</p>

Hiram would have been aged 12 in 1870 and aged 16 in 1874 I feel too young to be a real viable candidate for Lou Russell's father.

All the other sons of Buckner and Martha are too young to be considered.

[7] ☒ This leaves us with the last known son of Hiram and Jemima Russell and he would have been William Henry Russell born 6 March 1835 in Cole County, Missouri and died 5 June 1911 in Equality Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States.

William married 1st Mary Ann (**CRISP**) on 13 June 1853 in Miller County. Mary Ann was born 23 Dec 1833 in North Carolina and died 8 Mar 1907 in Miller County.

William married early and was consistently married until they were divorced and he remarried in 1896. Therefore, William is not a good candidate for father for Lou Russell.

[8] ☒ The oldest son of William's was James W. Russell and he was born in 1864, way too young to be considered a candidate for Lou's father.

This wraps up the Russell family candidates except...an honorable mention of one more man...the old patriarch...Hiram Buckner Russell is a potential candidate as the father of Lou Russell.

[9] ☒ Hiram's 2nd wife Jemima C. (**ETTER**) Russell died in my opinion after the 1860 census date and before her husband married Nancy A. (_____) of the 1870 census. The Nancy A. living with him in the 1870 census was born in 1810 in Virginia and definitely is not his 2nd wife Jemima.

Nancy A. also disappears after the 1870 census and Hiram is living with his daughter; Martha Jane (**RUSSELL**) and son; James M. Russell in the 1880 census.

Between the time of Nancy's death in the early 1870's, Hiram could have (1) married Lou Russell's mother, (2) she gave birth to Lou and died, (3) Hiram was a widower again.

It looks good on paper but we keep falling back on that old question...if Hiram was Lou's father then, why wasn't 5-year-old Lou Russell living with him in the 1880 census?

There you have the potential candidates for fatherhood of Lora "Lou" Franklin Russell.

[1] Patriarch Hiram Buckner Russell (1804-1884)

[2] John Benjamin Russell son of Alexander Mayfield & Louisa Jane (**COTTON**) Russell

[3] James M. Russell son of Hiram Buckner & Jemima C. (**ETTER**) Russell

[4] James Alexander Russell son of Buckner James & Martha Jane (**CLARK**) Russell

I am sure when the truth is discovered, one of these men above will be the father of Lou Russell. In the meantime let's play the name game.

<p style="text-align: center;">LORA “LOU” FRANKLIN RUSSELL...AN ENIGMA BY Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 1ST EDITION 2012 2ND REVISED 2015</p>

THE NAME GAME...

The name game is a research tool invented by me to look for relative name associations between family members. I found this extremely useful in trying to locate potential ancestors when the direct line ancestors have not been clearly defined.

The base of our association will be the children of Lou & Delcinia (**RICHARDS**) Russell's children. Keep in mind, one has to give flexibility to the names from the Richards side of the family for their potential association.

Lora “Lou” Franklin & Delcinia Isabelle “Belle” Jane (**RICHARDS**) Russell had the following known children...

1. Mary Bertha “Birdie” (**RUSSELL**) Knapp
2. Clara Mae (**RUSSELL**)
3. John Lora Russell
4. Joseph “Joel” Edward Russell
5. Jessie Isabel (**RUSSELL**)
6. Anna Victoria (**RUSSELL**)
7. William Franklin Russell
8. Maude Lee (**RUSSELL**)
9. Stella Christina (**RUSSELL**)
10. Dorothy “Dollie” (**RUSSELL**)
11. Benjamin Sylvester Russell
12. Henry Francis Russell

On the surface it appears that Lou and Delcinia pretty much gave their children random names. However, there are several hints in those names above that may have a connection to the Russell, Hicks and Tracy families.

The given name of #3 John fits John Benjamin Russell...one of the serious candidates as a father for Lou Russell.

We do not have a Joseph, Joel or Edward in any of our three families of Russell, Hicks or Tracy. Neither does William nor Franklin fit any one of our candidates.

The given name Benjamin does fit John Benjamin Russell from our candidate list and this is a second occurrence of his name in the children of Lou & Delcinia Russell.

The names Sylvester, Henry and Francis do not fit any of our candidates.

Therefore, a strong coincidence seems to point to John Benjamin Russell as the father of Lou Franklin Russell.

Concerning the female surnames we are looking for a connection to Lou Russell's mother.

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Only two of the names of Mary, Bertha, Clara, Mae, Ann, Delia, Maude, Stella and Dorothy seem to match our female potential mother candidates.

1. Mary and Ann matches Mary Ann Winniford (**HICKS**) Carrender Stansberry
2. Mary matches Mary (**TRACY**)
3. Ann matches Mary's sister; Rebecca Ann (**TRACY**)

Taking this projection to the next generation *i.e*, grandchildren of Lora " Lou" Franklin & Delcenia Isabelle "Belle" Jane (**RICHARDS**) Russell we get the following...

1. Mary Bertha "Birdie" (**RUSSELL**) Knapp does not name any one of her male children with our candidate names.
2. Clara Mae (**RUSSELL**)'s records of the children are difficult to locate.
3. John Lora Russell died young.
4. Joseph "Joel" Edward Russell none of his sons were named after the potential fathers mentioned above.
5. Jessie Isabelle (**RUSSELL**) Rowland does not name any of her sons after the potential father's mentioned above.
6. Anna Victoria (**RUSSELL**) Dilks does not name any of her sons after the potential father's mentioned above.
7. William Franklin "Frank" Russell records of the children are difficult to locate.
8. Maude "Maudie" Lee (**RUSSELL**) died young.
9. Stella Christina (**RUSSELL**) died young.
10. Dorothy "Dolly" (**RUSSELL**) records of the children are difficult to locate.
11. Benjamin "Ben" Sylvester (**RUSSELL**) records of the children are difficult to locate.
12. Henry Francis (**RUSSELL**) records of the children are difficult to locate.

1. James Russell was single and lived after 1880 so he was not probably Lou's father.
2. Buckner Russell lived after 1900 so he was not Lou's father.
3. William Russell didn't make it to the 1860 census.

It appears none of Hiram's boys was a potential father for Lou Russell also, Lou said his father was born in Tennessee and none of these men qualify.

Let's look at another Russell family...

I hope you're not getting tired yet, how do you think I feel?

ABRAHAM FRANKLIN & JANE ANNE MARIE (BOICE) RUSSELL FAMILY

Abraham was born 1815 in Virginia and Jane was born 1817 in the Missouri Territory. They were married 9 November 1834 in Cole County, Missouri. This means all their children were born in Missouri.

<p style="text-align: center;">LORA “LOU” FRANKLIN RUSSELL...AN ENIGMA BY Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 1ST EDITION 2012 2ND REVISED 2015</p>

Maybe Lou Russell's father was not in the 1850 census of Miller County, Missouri and could have arrived after 1850; let's check the 1860 census.

Well, Hiram and Jemima (**ETTER**) Russell are still alive in the 1860 census.

We now have Alexander Mayfield & Louisa J. (**COTTON**) Russell family in the 1860 census. Alexander was born 1826 in Tennessee.

Projecting Alexander and Louisa to the future we find Alexander lived until 1903 and Louisa lived until 1899. These are not the parents of Lou Russell.

What we are doing is trying to find a male Russell who may have become a widower before the 1870 census or shortly afterwards and could have married Lou's mother before 1873-1874. Then he disappeared before the 1880 census. Thereby, forcing little Lou Russell to live with his Tracy in-laws.

Alexander is the only male Russell in the 1860 Miller County census from Tennessee except Hiram Russell who is still married to Jemima (**ETTER**) Russell.

Ok, let's take a look at the 1870 census for eligible Russell males.

Hiram is still alive but Jemima has died and Hiram has remarried.

We now have a Nathan Russell born 1830 in Tennessee family but he is of the **black** race.

We do not show any more Tennessee born males in 1870 Miller County, Missouri.

This leaves only one more potential candidate for Lou's father and that would be Hiram B. Russell. Hiram died on 14 Apr 1885 at Pleasant Mount, Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States and is buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Pleasant Mount, Saline Township, Miller County, Missouri, United States. He was born in Monroe County, Tennessee.

What is interesting about Hiram Russell is not only was he in his late 60's by the time that Lou Franklin Russell was born but by the 1880 census, Hiram was a second time widower.

I tried to discover whom Nancy, Hiram's second wife was from the 1870 census but I found no marriage record. Hiram could be Lou's father or the Tennessee birth location in the 1880 census for Lou Russell is an error.

LET'S WRAP THIS UP...

The only way you are going to discover the parentage of Lora "Lou" Franklin Russell is to take a road trip. Road Trips are great ways to meet new friends, see the countryside and discover family secrets that leads to additional family history.

[1] The first place I would go, would be Eldon City in Miller County and check the local library. See if there are any books on the Russell families of the area and ask the librarian if there are any Russell family researchers in the area.

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Ask the librarian if they have a newspaper collection dating back to the 1870's and if not, where is that collection housed. [2] When you find the newspaper collection serving the Miller County area, try to find any information concerning the parentage of Lou Franklin Russell and his possible sister.

Keep mindful you are also interested in the Tracy, Hicks and other related families of Miller County, Missouri.

[3] The next stop would be the Miller County Courthouse in Tuscumbia. Check the courthouse records for adoption papers for Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell in the 1870's-1880's and see if he is mentioned in the court records as being an orphan and who has been given guardianship.

You may need to research the years 1870 to before he gets married in 1895. Also, check the local library in Tuscumbia for newspapers and books on the Russell, Hicks and Tracy families.

[4] While at the courthouse, check the probate records for all Russell and Tracy families after 1870 and before 1900. They may mention Lou as a son in their will or estate papers. Lou may have inherited some property from his father's estate.

[5] And most important of all...don't forget to check those marriage record books, page by page to see if you can find that Russell-Hicks or Russell-Tracy marriage record circa 1870-1873.

If I had my youth back, and Lou Russell was a relative of mine, I would not hesitate to take the time to go on a road trip to Miller County, Missouri. I have taken many road trips before.

For additional information read the following “**Master Accreditation of the Genealogical Institute M.A.G.I. Course Lesson #6 How to Breakdown Your Brick Wall**” master ws.pdf can be accessed at <https://openlibrary.org/people/floydpratt59/lists> under the list...Genealogical Institute.

WHY DO ALL THIS RESEARCH?

I have given you a jump start on these Russell, Tracy and Hicks families so you can solve the mystery of the parentage of Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell.

All this hard research is necessary, because of the failure of our ancestors to discuss their families with their children. This has been a problem since the fall of Adam. Father's rarely discussed their parents and up bringing and hardly ever shared this information with anyone let alone their families.

Consequently, each generation lost a piece of their heritage and if Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell had told his son; Joseph who Lou's father was, Joseph would have written down his name on his father's death certificate instead of writing, “not known”. It even looks like Joe thought his father's mother was Mary, but he scratched that and wrote, “not known”.

Why wouldn't the children ask and why didn't the parents tell their family about their history? Many researchers have speculated and apologized for their relatives by dismissing this lack of communication with “they were too busy making a living and trying to survive” or “the family just didn't care to know and the adults didn't care to tell them about their ancestors.”

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In any case, all of this hard research work that must be done today, in our time, in order to identify, validate and verify our ancestors is a direct result of the failure of our ancestors to communicate with each other.

Some of us have been lucky, if their wives wrote down family information in the old family bible. Very few of these bibles have made it to our day. Pictures of our older ancestors are rare and most are lost.

If this family history research work wasn't important, as predicted in Malachi 4: 5, 6, then no one today would care about their ancestors.

But, this is the Lord's work and his goals must be accomplished. We do the work and identify our ancestors so they may enjoy the same blessings we enjoy with our families in the Holy temples of the Lord, thus...fulfilling the promises and covenants that our Heavenly Father made to Abraham many eons ago.

2015 EPILOGUE

It has been three years since I wrote this article and posted it on www.ancestry.com. I just reviewed all the trees concerning this Russell family and not one person, who has posted a tree, has added or contributed anything to the research of this family.

Either none of them care concerning the parentage of Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell or none of his descendants are interested in his parentage or family history. This is shameful, and a disgrace to the family history research community.

I know the answers to Mr. Russell's parentage lies in those dusty vaults of the Miller County Courthouse and/or newspaper articles from 1870-1880. The Miller County Genealogical Society may have someone on staff or knows of someone who is familiar with the Russell, Hicks and Tracy families.

In my 40-year tenure researching family histories, I took road trips from Missouri to Washington D.C., Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois and California and points between all in the pursuit of family history knowledge and research. When I lived in Florida I took road trips to North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois as long as my health was stable. Now, due to my failing health, I have to relay on others for information on families.

Lora “Lou” Franklin Russell died in 1923, which was 92 years ago and no one has cared enough to validate his parentage. Does he have to wait another 92 years before someone will be a hero and pick up the gauntlet?

Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.

**6 SEPTEMBER 2012
28 MAY 2015**

A Little Something About Your Author.....

Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.



At the age of 19, Mr. Pratt embarked on a career in law enforcement. This experience gave him training in detective and investigative skills. Little did Mr. Pratt know, how useful these skills would be in the field of genealogy.


Floyd started his family research career in 1975 after becoming a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. His first calling as a new member was to serve in the newly created genealogical department or known today as the Family History Center in the Springfield, Missouri ward. This two-year calling gave Mr. Pratt a tremendous amount of experience helping others to research their families.

In fact, he felt family research came easy and required little effort on his part. In reality, years of reading and studying increased his expertise and he made it look easy to others. Over the course of several years, Mr. Pratt was asked by his church to instruct several family history courses. This experience established a deep profound love for family and ancestors. It was not uncommon for Mr. Pratt to spend 4 to 8 hours a day researching and compiling family histories in addition to his duties, as an entrepreneur in the insurance business.

The first major achievement for Mr. Pratt was a breakthrough on his Pratt family back to the early 1800's. Due to confusion with Pratt ancestors and not satisfied with just the direct line research, Mr. Pratt branched out to research all connected lines and allied families.

This dedication led to 50,000 individuals in his database and has achieved expert status for Mr. Pratt on the families of middle and eastern Missouri, eastern and western Tennessee and central North Carolina.

Concerning Mr. Pratt's style of research, he is a strong supporter of the "hands on" approach. When he took family vacations, they usually went to libraries, cemeteries, courthouses, National Archive centers, and visited family members in various states. He attended family reunions and obtained his material from the actual sources when possible.

Being a researcher of the highest degree, in 1991, Mr. Pratt created  **Pratt Publications**.

He began to offer to the public, a series of books titled, Pratt Progenitor Papers. This series of volumes are a collection of legal documents, stories, pictures and historical presentations concerning the families of Missouri, Tennessee and North Carolina.

The first three Volumes were released to the public in 1991 and were issued to 18 different libraries including the Library of Congress and the St. Louis Public Library. The next 11 volumes were sent to the Salt Lake Genealogical Library with 60 volumes scheduled for publication.

In 1996, Mr. Pratt created the  **Genealogical Institute** to further the education of serious researchers.

A Little Something About Your Author.....

The **Genealogical Institute** offers a series of educational materials to teach and instruct the novice as well as advanced researchers, procedures Mr. Pratt has tried and tested to be of great value in family history research. These courses offer “a hands on” curriculum designed to instruct in investigative, deductive reasoning and logical techniques for tracking your family history. Many have found a treasure chest of knowledge when undertaking these courses.

Mr. Pratt has taken the hobby of genealogy and has enhanced it into a science. Heavy on instructions concerning documentation, research procedures, alternative sources and common public records, these courses are valuable tools for the family history researcher. Mr. Pratt has been informed by researchers his material found in his publications are recorded as source validation for such organizations as the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

Upon completion of the educational courses from the **Genealogical Institute**, the graduate is awarded the *Master Accreditation* of the *Genealogical Institute*. (*M.A.G.I.*) Written in easy to read format with detailed explanations concerning various subjects of interest to family history researchers.

Mr. Pratt's ability in family history research has amazed many experienced researchers. When Mr. Pratt is asked for help concerning their “brick wall” in their family research, his quick wit and logical mind rapid fires instructions and procedures so fast they cannot write the material quickly enough. Little do they realize, this knowledge has been acquired over 40 years of research.

In June of 2000, Mr. Pratt undertook a new and unprecedented task. Outside of Washington, Saint John's Township, Franklin County, Missouri is an old cemetery called the Johnson-Caldwell Cemetery aka; misnamed the McAllister Cemetery. This cemetery has many pioneer heroes and ancestors of various descendants from that region. Some of the inhabitants were born in the 1750's and arrived in the Missouri Territory shortly after the 1803 Louisiana Purchase.

Mr. Pratt recorded all the information off of the headstones including every person in the cemetery and researched each individual related to Mr. Pratt or not. 1000 man-hours and two years later, he published the book “**JOHNSON-CALDWELL CEMETERY OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI**”©.

Obtaining newspapers, legal documents, talking to ancestors and researching various sources for any and all information concerning the history of the cemetery and the inhabitants produced this master text.

What makes this book unique is based on several factors. First, it is the only book to report on each inhabitant, their birth and activities throughout their life until their death, including their ancestors, spouses and children. Second, this book contains a unique index, listing the individual and their father's name if known. This is extremely helpful when several individuals have the same given name.

Upon examination, professional researchers have hailed this body of work as a masterpiece and a standard in which all future research should be based. No one has ever produced a body of work as unique and professional as this publication.

As the years moved on, Mr. Pratt became concerned about his 40 years of hard research work of various family histories. After a serious heart attack in 2012, Mr. Pratt decided to post his collective bodies of work on a website making them available to all interested researchers without compensation.

A Little Something About Your Author.....

After careful consideration, Mr. Pratt chose the website www.openlibrary.org. "Open Library" is a repository of millions of digital books available to the public for free.

There are two or more ways to access Mr. Pratt's publications.

If you open the website as listed above you click on the authors label on the left hand side and type Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. The website will open to his name, click his name and you will be directed to a listing with his name, picture and listing of presently 62 publications (2015).

You can either scroll the list or an easier way to reach his lists is at the following website...

<https://openlibrary.org/people/floydpratt59/lists>

If you notice there are currently 9 lists or categories of books, article, stories and commentaries attributed to Mr. Pratt's publications.

These "Lists" are broken down as follows not necessarily in any order...

Vital Text Series This section covers public vital records. Including marriage records, deeds, census records, births, deaths, probate and indexes to public records. The counties of Missouri covered are as follows; Crawford, Washington, Franklin, Gasconade, St. François, Ste. Genevieve, and Jefferson counties.

Pratt Archive Collections This Collections comprises of a series of books containing cemeteries, family histories, biographies and various books by individual authors. There are several sections with this group... **Cemeteries** contain documented census information for various cemeteries in Crawford, Washington and Franklin Counties of Missouri. **Family Histories** are a collection of historical books concerning a group of a family or family names.

CRADLE TO GRAVE (C2G) PROFILE The Cradle to Grave Profile (C2G) documents an individual's life from the cradle to the grave. All known research material concerning that individual is represented in a family group sheet format. These C2G profiles are presented to the researcher within a family group sheet detailing the husband, his spouses and all known children. Regardless of how many times the subject has been married, the researcher receives a full report on all known spouses and children for one low fee.

The Pratt Chronicles... The Pratt Chronicles series or what we call a Cradle to Grave (C2G) profile on steroids, is an in-depth comprehensive biography on one individual's life encompassing all known events, including historical factors from the time of their birth to their burial. These events are comprised of current music, inventions, movies, family births, deaths, marriages, legal documents, occupations, military participation, pictures, maps, mementos, world history, US history and economic conditions as they occurred on a yearly basis.

LITERARY HISTORY SERIES contains rare books concerning family history written by other authors...many who are deceased. These books were bought over the years and now enjoy the status of a rare find in the genealogical library.

VIEW FROM THE MAST... Over the years, Mr. Pratt has found it necessary to write articles concerning observations concerning various family history topics or what we call personal artifacts. These reports, articles and short stories are contained in this section labeled...View From the Mast.

A Little Something About Your Author.....

Having a unique perspective from the top of mast on the sailing ship of discovery, Mr. Pratt has sailed through the waters of family history research for the last 40 years. These articles were designed to bring to the attention of family historians some unusual details he has witnessed during his research tenure.

Genealogical Institute M.A.G.I. Courses These courses were developed over the years to assist the novice as well as the professional in all manners pertaining to family history research. Written in easy to read format with detailed explanations concerning various subjects of interest to family history researchers.

Pratt Progenitor Papers Series This series is comprised of the famous Pratt Progenitor Papers. Starting with a known ancestor, this collection covers 2 or more generations of descendants. Each volume follows a particular individual and his descendants including children, grandchildren and spouses if known. Each of these volumes include legal and detailed information about a particular ancestor...many contain Cradle to Grave (C2G) Profiles. The order of reporting is as follows: 1st a Descendancy report on the primary, which is usually the husband; 2nd the primary or husband followed by all known wives, then 3rd the second generation comprising of all known children and their spouses, followed by additional subsequent generations of descendants. The **PPP** are light on speculation and assumptions, heavy on factual documentation offering research insights and suggestions.

ANCESTRAL FAMILY HISTORY OF... This book showcases a selected individual usually a living descendant, detailing their direct line ancestors as far as the research has been completed. This type of format is known as an enhanced pedigree chart. These books contain as many as 10 to 70 generations limited only by the number of ancestors of our primary individual. Whereas, pedigree charts list only the vitals on an individual, these books generate all known notes, articles, legal documents and if applicable, Cradle to Grave (C2G) Profiles on each and every direct line ancestor and their spouses.

When accessing Mr. Pratt's books on Open Library, click on the heading of each list and you will be directed to the books, articles, stories and commentaries contained in each section. Click on the title of the book or article you desire for a full explanation of the item with contents. On the upper right hand column, are the words "Read Online" and PDF. All of these publications have been uploaded to the Internet Archive Digital Library repository and you can access them directly at the following...
<https://archive.org/>

If you wish to read online, click the read online link, the book will open and if you wish to download this item click the PDF link in the box on right. We suggest you download, giving you the opportunity to read and study the books, articles, stories and commentaries at your leisure.

We, in the genealogical world are deeply grateful to be associates of a man of Mr. Pratt's caliber. Through his research and dedication, future generations will benefit by his advances in the genealogical research field.

In addition we are thankful for the inspiration that sparks men like Mr. Pratt to magnify their love for people and history. We feel, with a lifetime dedicated to the genealogical pursuit of truth and knowledge, Mr. Pratt's accumulative body of work, will stand as a quintessential manifestation of this divine love.

Lewton Cole, Chairman
Genealogical Institute

Floyd Thomas "Tom" Pratt F. H. C., M. A. G. I. Pedigree Chart

1 page of 43 pages Pedigree

Page 1

Chart no. 1

